

NSC BRIEFING

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17 April 1957

RETURN OF NAKARIOS

I. Tension high in both Greece and Turkey following big Athens welcome for returning Archbishop Makarios this morning.

A. In address to crowds from hotel balcony, Makarios again pledged "fight" for Cypriot "self-determination".

B. US Ambassador Allen reports Greek Gov't seriously concerned that Cyprus union in near future would bring war with Turkey.

C. On 14 Apr, strong Turkish note warned Greeks against "ostentatious manifestations" on Makarios' arrival. Greeks called note "insolent and unbearable" and rejected it.

1. US Ambassador Warren in Ankara has been told that "Turkey would fight if necessary" to prevent Cyprus union.
2. Warren anticipates "controlled" Turkish popular disturbances.

D. Ambassador Warren told on 12 Apr that Turkish Prime Minister Menderes' impending statement to National Assembly on Cyprus would be tough and that time for "pleasant phrases" was past.

1. Turks now demand partition.
2. Turkish Cypriots reportedly plan assassination Makarios if he returns to island.

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